Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1974

UNCLAS MEXICO 11253

E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJ: CASE REVIEW OF ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO: ODERMANN,

ALVIN ORVILLE

REF: STATE 194199

- 1. DENIAL OF CONSULAR ACCESS: PER STARK MATERIAL, ODERMANN STATES HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO CALL CONOFF AT TIME OF ARREST 8/20/73 AND CONOFF DID NOT VISIT FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. PER POST FILES, EMBASSY LEARNED OF ARREST BY NEWSPAPER ONE DAY LATER AND CONOFF ATTEMPTED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO CONTACT ODERMANN BY TELEPHONE, CONOFF SENT LETTER 8/31/73, ON CONOFF'S NEXT SCHEDULED VISIT. ODERMANN GAVE VERY LITTLE INFORMATION AND HAD NO REQUEST TO MAKE TO EMBASSY.
- 2. CONSULAR VISITATIONS: POST FILES SHOW CONOFF VISITED PRISON APPROXIMATELY ONCE A MONTH THROUGH 1974 AND AT LEAST TWICE MONTHLY THROUGH 1975. CONOFF NOTATIONS SHOW ODERMANN USUALLY APPEARED BRIEFLY OR NOT AT ALL FOR VISITS. PER STARK MATERIAL, ODERMANN STATED "I HAVE PERSONALLY HAD FEW CONTACTS WITH THE EMBASSY. I CONSIDER THE STAFF TO BE AMERICAN POLICE AGENTS, WHOSE ACTIVITIES COULD ONLY BE DETEIMENTAL TO MY INTERESTS".
- 3. CONFISCATION OF PROPERTY: ALLEGATION THAT ODERMANN'S PERSONAL PROPERTY WAS CONFISCATED AT TIME OF ARREST IS NOTED PER STARK MATERIAL. POST IS NOW ASSISTING ODERMANN IN RETRIEVING HIS PROPERTY. UNCLASSIFIED

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- 4. COMMISSIONED WORK: PER STARK MATERIAL AND POST FILES, ODERMANN COMPLAINED HAD NO COMMISSIONED JOB. HE HAS NOW HAD COMMISSIONED JOB FOR ONE MONTH AND IS SATISFIED WILL GET FULL CREDIT FOR ALL COMMISSIONED WORK PERFORMED TO REDUCE SENTENCE.
- 5. MISTREATMENT WHILE IN PRISON: PER STARK MATERIAL, ODERMANN ALLEGES HE AS FORCED TO PAY 270 DOLLARS, THEN 350 DOLLARS TO PRISON "MAYORES" TO AVOID ONEROUS WORK DETAIL AND OBTAIN DECENT CELL. POST FILES CONTAIN NO RECORD OF COMPLAINT BY ODERMANN. IN VIEW OF LACK OF TIMELY COMPLAINT TO CONOFF, THERE APPEARS LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF EFFECTIVE PROTEST AT THIS TIME. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO SEEK REMEDY TO PROBLEM OF ABUSE OF POWER BY "MAYORES" THROUGH FREQUENT VISITS AND MONITORING. JOVA

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Subject: : CASE REVIEW OF ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO : ODERMANN, ALVIN ORVILLE TAGS: CASC, MX, (ODERMANN, ALVIN ORVILLE)
To: STATE

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